

WESTPAC 2006



O RUSH In-port period

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O | Boatswain's Mates -We highlight our professional mariners in this week's Rate of the Week

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O|RUSH takes home
Another award

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Greetings from USCGC RUSH, underway on the high seas!

"It takes the efforts of every member of Team RUSH to ensure we are successful in what we do"

- Captain Dana E. Ware Commanding Officer, USCGC RUSH

As the radiant beams of the morning sun crack through the peaks of the Ko'olau mountain range and onto the glimmering hull of RUSH, one could not hesitate to notice how this mighty ship slowly comes to life with the

dawn of each day. As last night's engineers trail the pier on their morning checks, the POW and Hawaii State flags climb slowly in the wind as the Messenger raises on the port yardarm of the forward mast. One by one the cars filter in looking for that everprized parking spot in hopes that they have arrived early enough to acquire one. Others

wish their loved ones a wonderful day as their spouses, dressed in the latest of morning attire, make that same shuffle everyday to ensure their favorite Coastie is on time and ready to go. Some have stopped by their favorite coffee shop to pick up that much-needed morning java while others drag extra bags to get them through their on-coming duty day. The

myriad of blue uniforms slowly make their way on that familiar path to the brow as Team RUSH gets ready to usher in a new day at work.

Although the prize of a Cutter's achievements are

usually found at sea, it is the seamless work and efforts conducted at the homeport that prepare the Cutter for triumph at sea. The success of a mission is dependant on the preparation, planning and training conducted during the Cutter's in-port period.

COAST GU!

RUSH is no stranger to this Continued on page 7

Vext Stop: The Land of the Rising Sun

The beginning of each patrol always marks the start of a new chapter in RUSH's acclaimed history. After a long and productive in-port period, lines were taken in, fenders were raised and RUSH was back underway, this time enroute our first stop in Yokohama, Japan as a part of foreign relations operations in the Northeast Asia region.

The first few days of transit have proven to be very busy and very constructive. We topped off our fuel tanks in Pearl Harbor for the long journey to Asia and picked up newly-reporting personnel including our new Operations Officer and our Coast Guard Academy Cadets, who are joining us for their summer cruise as a part of their curriculum. With the personnel transfer season well underway and many new faces about the decks, we are finding time to ensure the new members of Team RUSH are receiving the proper training to enhance their qualification process on board. It is very important that we are able to use these weeks out at sea to train effectively. The On-Board Training Teams have each taken advantage of the afternoons with drills focusing on emergency procedures



and tactical operations. The training on board has gotten off to a good start with all hands focusing on personal and professional development.

Our first stop in Yokohama is expected to be very busy. The planning committees both on board and at our Pacific Area offices are all working diligently to ensure we are ready to represent our service and our country in an organized and dignified manner. Our Command representatives are preparing for numerous receptions and meetings to take place with foreign officials while our Public Affairs team is organizing final measures to guarantee optimal media coverage.

As we sail closer and closer to Yokohama, each new day welcomes more development and challenges for Team RUSH to take on. This patrol promises to be a very busy but exciting endeavor, one that everyone is looking forward to experience.

RUSH's Food Service Division takes top honors



Every year, the IFSEA sponsors the Coast Guard Excellence in Food Service Awards. These awards highlight the Coast Guard units with the best Food Service programs in their respective categories. This year, RUSH's Food Service Division was awarded the CGEFS Award in the Large Unit-Afloat category, competing in the final round against Charleston-based Coast Guard Cutter GALLATIN and Seattle-based Coast Guard Cutter HEALY.

The competition this year was the closest its been in years, but RUSH out-shined the competition.

Quick Bits on...



- -Second largest city In Japan behind Tokyo
- -Population: 3,570,000 people
- -Japan's largest Cruise ship port
- -Average Summer Temperature: 77 degrees F
- -Average Winter Temperature: 42 degrees F
- -The original city of Yokohama was destroyed in the Earthquake of 1923. The city was then quickly rebuilt with deep Chinese influences

O HONOR





RUSH Mothers Day Tribute to our Mother's

The famous author and political commentator Charlotte Gray once said "Becoming a mother makes you the mother of all children. From now on each wounded, abandoned, frightened child is yours. You live in the suffering mothers of every race and creed and weep with them. You long to comfort all who are desolate." The same could be said of the two members of Team RUSH that hold this prestigious title.

As mothers in the military, YNC Kimberly Daniels and SK1 Ifong Lee know too well the hardships and blessings associated with being a mother in uniform. Their maternal roles have made a deep impact on the way they approach their everyday interaction with the crew of RUSH and the development of their careers. It is apparent that this special designation has allowed them to relate to the crew in a special way and their commitment to their families reflects in their relationships with crewmembers.

SK1 Ifong Lee has been serving in the Coast Guard for ten years. Her husband, Ensign Daniel Lee, works at the Electronics Support Unit at Coast Guard Integrated Support Command Honolulu. She is a mother to six year-old Shiloh Nathaniel Lee and three year-old Suen-Hyun Antonina Lee. She notes that her fondest memories in life are with her children. "My children are very close. They always take care of each other. Shiloh is such a sweetheart and a mama's boy whereas Sue is daddy's little princess," says Lee. "I remember Daniel and I buving Shiloh a ball before he was a year-old and since then he's been playing baseball! In fact, he just hit his first home run!" she adds.

Lee notes her proudest accomplishment as being a mother is raising her children in a Christian household based on morals and values. She says that her heritage as a Samoan-American also plays a vital role in her children's upbringing. When asked what she wants her children to gain in the future about her role as a mother and service member, she hopes her children understand the value of sacrifice and the true meaning of it.

YNC Kimberly Daniels has been a Coast Guard service member for 21 years and

as a single mother to twenty-six year old Antonio Daniels and sixteen year-old Stephan Daniels, she states that her role as a mother in the military has definitely affected her role as a leader, especially amongst the newer generation of Coast Guardsmen. "I think I approach situations and people differently because I am a mother," adds Daniels.

When asked about her children, Daniels describes her sons as total opposites but also very much alike. "Antonio is really shy and won't open up until you get to know him, but Stephan is really open and friendly. He'll talk to anybody!" she says. "But when it comes to humor, they are both really funny." She recalls one of her fondest memories happening eight years ago in Boston when she and her sons were shoveling snow. "Antonio started chasing Stephan and, after he caught him, grabbed him by the neck and waist and threw him onto a mound of snow! I was laughing so hard! That started the snowball fight that followed."

Daniels is really proud of the fact that she was able to provide the opportunity for her children to travel and experience different cultures and see different places. She hopes her sons gain a strong work ethic from her example. "Hard work doesn't hurt anybody," says Daniels, as she refers to life lessons she ensures her sons will inherit.

Serving on a ship is hard for any family member. As mothers, both Lee and Daniels share a different perspective. A perspective that can only be understood by mothers alike. Their roles in Team RUSH's success are made even stronger through their everyday interactions with the crew. They are, and will continue to be, a strong example for crew members to look up to.



YNC Kimberly Daniels and SK1 Ifong Lee

The entire crew of RUSH would like to wish you and yours a

Happy Mother's Day!



Taking RUSH by the horns!



While RUSH sails gently through the Pacific Ocean, across the country in a small farm in Alabama resides the newest member of Team RUSH - *Rush*, the bull! Paul Swisher, a retired Coast Guard Officer, runs Circle Red S Farms in Roanoke, Alabama, where he raises Pinzgauer cattle. Each year, he has named at least one bull after a Coast Guard Cutter. This year marks the introduction of *Rush*, the bull!

Swisher retired from the Coast Guard in 1977 and now makes a living of raising this particular breed of cattle, acclaimed mostly for its tenderness and quality.

RUSH is the latest of a long line of bulls named after Cutters. He was born on September 7, 2005 and weighed 82 pounds. At a recent weigh-in, he tipped the scale at 588 pounds.

RUSH is the son of "Risky Business," a son of the Canadian National Champion and "Mary's Joy," granddaughter of the 1986 U.S. National Champion. Rush has been nominated to participate in the University of Florida Bull Test. This program feeds different breeds the same rations, live in the same environment and are constantly measured, weighed and scored regarding their growth and performance. Rush will start testing in August with his half-brother CRS Rembrandt.

A former Marine, Swisher joined the Coast Guard in 1957. He spent his enlisted career as a Radioman before joining the Officer Corps in 1965. His duty stations include the Coast Guard Cutters COOK INLET, ACUSHNET, and MELLON. He has also served in Hawaii at the District Fourteen Rescue Coordination Center and the Coast Guard Base at Sand Island.

For more information on Pinzgauer cattle, visit www.pinzgauers.org



Left: RUSH's MK75 76mm Gun fires live rounds during a firing exercise

Right: Chief Warrant Officer Michael Gephardt takes a break to fellowship with his division





The professional mariners of the Coast Guard, Boatswain's Mates are in charge of all deck evolutions on board RUSH. Handling lines while mooring and unmooring, boat lowering, anchoring, towing, and replenishment at sea are all details supervised by Boatswain's Mates. Responsible for the lives and safety of a small boat crew, Boatswain's Mates serve as small boat crew coxswains during boat evolutions.

Underway, Boatswain's Mates serve as Boatswain's Mate of the Watch ensuring watertight integrity and proper gear stowage. They also supervise and train the bridge crew in helm and lookout duties. Senior Third and Second Class Petty Officers are encouraged to qualify as Quartermasters of the Watch. First Class and Chief Boatswain's Mates are encouraged to become Officer of the Deck underway. Boatswain's Mates typically stand two 4-hour watches a day while underway in addition to other duties. Boatswain's Mates are assigned to the Deck Division in the Weapons Department. They perform and supervise important maintenance of RUSH's decks, exterior hull, superstructure, lifesaving gear, and boats. Boatswain's Mates have the knowledge to teach and supervise the art of seamanship; from knot tying, line handling, splicing and painting to navigation and piloting.

Boatswain's Mates also serve in the Operations Department in the Navigation division. Boatswain's Mates on board RUSH work on the bridge engaging in the vital roles of operation and navigational safety of the ship. Their duties include plotting, dead reckoning and maintaining a careful



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lookout for other ships and obstacles Using the latest electronical equipment including graphic radar, digital charting and global positioning Systems, these Boatswain's Mates stand watch on the bridge as the Navigator of the Watch for four to six hours at a time. The rest of the workday is spent correcting charts and nautical publications and gathering information on visiting foreign ports of call. During in-port hours, attention is also directed to ordering navigational supplies and preparing for upcoming patrols. These Boatswain's Mates are also in charge of the Quarterdeck and its Watch Schedule. These Boatswain's Mates are also knowledgeable in whistle, bell and light signals, rules of the road and visual communications including flashing light, flag hoist and semaphore.

Aloha 'Oe...

We wish a warm and fond aloha to our shipmates who have transferred to new endeavors in their lives and Coast Guard careers. Mahalo for your contributions to Team RUSH!

DC2 Aaron Alualu - Integrated Support Command Alameda, CA

SN Erik Ascencio - Gunner's Mate "A" School - Training Center Yorktown, VA

FN Nick Bateman - Marine Science Technician "A" School - Training Center Yorktown, VA SK1 Karen Benson - Station Washington D.C.

SN John Bunker - Boatswain's Mate "A" School - Training Center Yorktown, VA

SK3 Reggie Chapa - Sector Corpus Christi, TX

SNFS Jarred Davis - Civilian

SN Tasi Fleming - Machinery Technician "A" School - Training Center Yorktown, VA

SN Brian Gogo - Machinery Technician "A" School - Training Center Yorktown, VA

BM3 Brian Goo - Integrated Support Command Honolulu, HI

SN Chad Griffiths - Marine Science Technician "A" School - Training Center Yorktown, VA

FS2 John Hagenmayer - USCG Pacific Area, Alameda, CA

GMC Eirik Hauge - USCG Pacific Area Armory Detachment Honolulu, HI

MK2 Michael Hightower - Station Bellingham, WA

SN Harrison Hirsh - Air Station Barbers Point Airman Program - Honolulu, HI

SN Cody Hislop - Health Services Technician "A" School - Training Center Petaluma, CA

SNET Kevin Johnson - Civilian

SN Casey Maphis - Gunner's Mate "A" School - Training Center Yorktown, VA

FN Christopher Mazzeo - Machinery Technician "A" School - Training Center Yorktown, VA

FS2 Aaron McAdams - USCGC Manitou, Key West, Florida

SA Gregory Moder - Electronics Technician "A" School - Training Center Petaluma, CA SNGM Nathan Murray - Civilian

SA Bradley Poen - Boatswain's Mate "A" School - Training Center Yorktown, VA OS2 Jeffrey Pullen - Civilian

OSC Jamie Rodriguez - Vessel Traffic Safety Houston, TX

HSC David Romero - Integrated Support Command San Pedro, CA

SN Heidi Ronnfeldt - Health Service Technician "A" School - Training Center Petaluma, CA

BM2 Timothy Rossignol - USCGC Stingray, Mobile, AL

SN Joseph Rothrock - Yeoman "A" School - Training Center Petaluma, CA

BM2 Charlene Rowley - Integrated Support Command Honolulu, HI

FS3 Ratha Sam - Integrated Support Command Honolulu, HI

FN Jessica Seguin - Marine Science Technician "A" School - Training Center Yorktown, VA

SA Erika Stein - Boatswain's Mate "A" School - Training Center Yorktown, VA

FN Robert Sturgeon - Air Station Barber's Point Airman Program - Honolulu, HI

F&S2 Robert Taft - USCGC Hamilton, San Diego, CA

EM1 Eric Valenzuela - Sector Southwest Harbor, Portland, ME

FA Douglas Walters - Air Station Barber's Point Airman Program - Honolulu, HI

OS1 Barbara Wikel - Sector Honolulu Command Center, Honolulu, HI

OS2 Javier Zenon - Sector St. Petersburgh Command Center, St. Petersburgh, FL

THIS WEEK IN COAST GUARD HISTORY ...



May 11, 1898 USRC Hudson

The U.S. Revenue Cutter Hudson, along with the Navy warships Winslow, Machias, and Wilmington, had pursued three Spanish gunboats into the bay of Cardenas, Cuba during the Spanish-American War. USS Winslow underwent heavy damage from enemy weakening its defense of neighboring allies. USRC Hudson, commanded by Lieutenant Frank Hamilton Newcomb, successfully rescued the disabled Winslow while both were under Spanish fire. For his crew's efforts, LT Newcomb was awarded the Cardenas Medal (right).



WELCOME ABOARD! E KOMO MAI!

Welcome aboard to the newest members of Team RUSH!
We look forward to working with them to continue to uphold RUSH's fine reputation.

LT Paul McConnell	FS3 Conrad Ladner	SN Ryan Levine
ENS Adam Paul	ET3 Evan Samelo	SN Benjamin Thibodeau
ENS Nathaniel Robinson	BM3 Steven Gomez	SN Jaclyn Young
FSCS Alan Ramirez	BM3 Travis Lau	SN Casey McDonough
EM1 Jonathan Olsen	OS3 James McIlwain	SN Ashlee Reynolds
OS1 William McCown	SNOS Jason Ballesteros	SN Derek Walsh
FS2 Robert Martinez	SNOS Joshua Gonzales	SN David Huntley
ET2 Peter Schmoll	SNFS Casey Drake	SN Michael Bercham
SK3 Melanie Gonzales	SNFS Christopher Dill	FN Adam Zurowski
DC3 Joseph Jiminez	SNFS Adam Rooney	FN Dane Evans
GM3 Tor Eystad	SN Sherman Baldwin	SA Daniel Cook
OS3 Javier Deleon	SN Robert Hopkins	FA Kaina Robinson
HS3 Teresą Williams	SN Nolan Justus	FA Tavaris Mason
		SA Tony Gonzalez
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We also welcome our Coast Guard Academy Cadets who are joining us this patrol!

First Class Cadet Mary Gilday
First Class Cadet Jonathan Ladyga
First Class Cadet Raphael Sadowitz
First Class Cadet Raphael Sadowitz
First Class Cadet Abigail Hu
Third Class Cadet Matthew Eyler
Third Class Cadet Michael Haas
Third Class Cadet Xiaobin Tuo

A big along extends out to our members of Team RUSH joining us from other units.

ENS Anastacia Visneski – USCGC JARVIS, Honolulu, HI
ENS William Millward – USCGC JARVIS, Honolulu, HI
HS1 John Payahsape – MLC PAC Detachment – San Diego, CA
ET1 Travis Silver – LORAN Station St. Paul, AK
EM2 Isaac Stern – Naval Engineering Support Unit Honolulu, HI
SK2 Michelle Brock – Integrated Support Command Honolulu, HI
BM3 Paul Vazquez – Integrated Support Command Honolulu, HI
BM3 Michael Deleon – Sea Marshall Detachment, Sector San Diego, CA

CREW ACHIEVEMENTS

Congratulations to the following personnel on their achievements aboard RUSH!

SN Robert Miller Flight Deck Tie-Down Crew

SN Benjamin Thibodeau Flight Deck Tie-Down Crew

BM1 Brian Anderson Underway Officer of The Deck

BM1 Manuel Montoya *Junior Officer Of the Day*

SN Eric Shadowen Advancement to E-3

ENS William Millward Engine Room Watchstander

EM1 Jonathan Olsen Security Watchstander

MK1 Ryan Paris *Underway Engineer Of the Watch*



A Note from our Ombudsman

Aloha to all!! I would like to introduce myself. I am Gretchen Eastman, your new Ombudsman. I have met with a few of you at the pre-deployment briefing and I look forward to meeting the rest of you very soon. As Ombudsman, I am the communications conduit between spouses/families and the RUSH. I will be sending you information as I receive it. I also have great resources available to share with you all you need to do is ask! My hours for questions and non-urgent calls are: 8-10 AM 5-8 PM weekdays; and for emergencies, please call me at anytime! I would also like to say a big ALOHA to our out-going Ombudsman, Carolyn Rossignol, as she is getting ready to leave the islands. A big MAHALO to Carolyn for such a wonderful job!

Mahalo, Gretchen

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process. The past four and a half months have proven to be challenging and rewarding at the same time. The engineers contributed numerous grueling hours to correct post-patrol casualties and ensuring RUSH is ready at all times. Divisions found themselves updating necessary procedures, conducting valuable training and getting RUSH back into shape after a long patrol. While digressing from successful operations in the East Pacific, members of Team RUSH found themselves gearing up for yet another demanding regiment in operations. This time the culprit came in the form of TACT.

TACT stands for Tailored Annual Cutter Training, and during the months of January and February and March, Team RUSH underwent this evaluation for the first time in its new form. The primary goal of TACT is to ensure the ship is able to operate normally as a tactical sea-going platform, respond to internal and external emergencies and provide adequate and organized support for the crew. As always, Team RUSH stepped up to the plate and completed all training objectives within the circumstantial limits of RUSH's operational capabilities. The training received from the Afloat Training Group Mid-Pacific proved invaluable as Team RUSH learned how to work as a crew more effectively. From tactical assessments to damage control fundamentals, the training significantly improved the operational readiness of RUSH.

As TACT wrapped up, it was time to make preparations for the upcoming patrol to Asia. This time, RUSH would be sent to represent the U.S. Coast Guard as a member of the North Pacific Coast

Guard Forum. This patrol will also make history as RUSH will be the first major Cutter to enter China since World War II. With help from the Coast Guard Pacific Area offices, District Fourteen representatives and shipmates from CGC JARVIS, Team RUSH was able to prepare sufficiently and smartly for a patrol carrying both national and international exposure.

Hard work, diligence and flexibility are all key ingredients to making a successful in-port period. All members of a team must work together to accomplish an overall goal. As RUSH makes its way across the mighty Pacific and towards Northeast Asia, they leave behind a long and fruitful in-port period and look forward to more success, a term synonymous with this fine crew.



Right: MKC Tom Cockerel smiles as he clutches his latest purchase from the Lucky Bag Sale

Left: SN Kevin Francis and fellow shipmates say one last goodbye to shipmates on the pier at ISC Honolulu



OS3 Pineda sends: Hey Mom, what is up, just thought that I would wish you a happy Mother's Day, love you, talk to you later. Love, Jesse

BM1 Montoya sends: Hello Mary and Dylan! Mary, Happy Mother's Day! If anyone deserves a good one, you do. You're the greatest!!! I love you Dylan!

BMC Swansburg sends: Happy Mother's Day Mom!!!! I love you and miss you. I can't wait to see you again. Love Kent... Happy Mother's Day Tammy!!!! Carly and I are both lucky to have you!...Shout out to my NH connection, miss you alllook forward to the next gathering. Rest up my friends, it is going to be a good one!

SK3 Cheney sends: Mom, happy Mother's Day. Hope you have a nice Mother's Day. Dad, happy birthday, hope that your day is great. Lydia La Giusa - Happy 1st birthday Yaya from Uncle Adam. To everyone back home, I miss and love ya!

BM2 Tobosa sends: MOM, Happy Mother's Day! Mahalo for everything. I truly have the best mom in the world! Yup, she's better than yours!

BMC Gordon sends: Marj, Happy Anniversary baby. Seems to be the norm to be apart but I still love you as much as the day I married you. Love, Phillip....Dez, I'm sorry I'm gonna miss your Graduation Baby Girl, but I will make it up to you. Love, Dad....Ann, be good and take care of Mom and Dez. Love you, Dad

OS1 Motu sends: Mom, Happy Mother's Day! Ou te alofa ia te oe! You are my reflection of God's love in my life. I am blessed to be your son! To Pastor Sina Vaovasa and the rest of the Waipahu AOG mothers, manuia lou Aso Tina! And to the gang in Helemano, miss you guys much! I was can' buliv it!

CWO2 Michael Gephardt sends: Donnamarie, Happy Mother's Day! I hope your day is a great one! I love you always, Michael.....Zachary, Happy Birthday son, I am so proud of you, hope you have a great day, tell your brother and sisters to give you a hug for me. Love Dad.

CWO2 Cheri Yancey sends: Mom, God gave you your Mother's Day gift when I was born. Or do you consider this to be a punishment? Just kidding. I love you very much. Thank you so much for your support, your wisdom, but most of all for the spiritual guidance you continue to give me on a daily basis. I'll always love you Momma!!!!!!! Cheri "REE REE" Yancey

LTJG Daniel sends: Moani - Congrats on all your finals. You did a great job. Tell everyone I said hello. Love you

SK1 Lee sends: I want to tell my husband that I love him and miss him very much. Good luck on his TAD trip and GOD BLESS. And I love you Shiloh and Sue

MK1 Collins sends: Happy 2nd Birthday Brandon, sorry I could not be there. Remember, you're the man of the house when daddy is gone. I miss you both, Love Darcy

ET3 Replogle sends: Hello to Amanda, Noah and all my family, I miss you, and I hope you all have a Happy Mother's Day tomorrow! Love, Bryan

CDR Mathers sends: Julianna - Happy Mother's Day! I'm sorry I can't be there with you, Anna, and Thomas. Know that you are constantly in my thoughts and prayers. You're a great Mom and I can't wait to get home to all of you. Love, Dwight

SK2 Brock sends: I would like to give a shout out to my mama to wish her a happy Mother's Day!

MK3 Perez sends: Happy Mother's Day! And congrats to the newest edition to our family, Ariella Sailey. Kayven take care of your baby sister and your mommy, I love you all!

MK3 Jozwiak sends: Happy Mother's Day! I hope to get the chance to visit soon!

YN1 Farnady sends: Hey Stinaroo! I miss you so much. We just left and I can't wait to get back to you. Hope all is well, good luck with all your qualifications. Hope you get the cats soon to keep you company and I hope that you are still there when we get back!!! 143 Baby. Mom - Happy Mother's Day, just wanna thank you for always being there for me.

BM1 Anderson sends: Tania, regresare a ti pronto. Te Amo. Happy Mother's Day Mom!

Rush *Hour*

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Public Affairs Officer LTJG Walter Daniel Wdaniel@rush.uscg.mil

Webmaster/Public Affairs OS1 Peni Motu Pmotu@rush.uscg.mil Right Top: LTJG Sean
Murray directs the HH-65
Helicopter as Landing
Signal Officer.
Right Bottom: The Flight Deck
Crew takes some time
for a quick picture in
between evolutions.



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Right: YN1 Kevin Farnady catches a lot of water, but no fish, at Fish Call.



Left: HS3 Stephanie Jones and SN Kalvin Baker enjoy an evening on the fantail.